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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Georgian SSR)

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SUBJECT Tbilisi Factory Airfield

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1. The factory airfield was southeast of Tiflis (Tbilisi) ( $41^{\circ}2'N/44^{\circ}43'E$ ), Georgian S.S.R., between the railroad line and the Kura River, and southeast of the aircraft plant. The field measured about 2 to 4 km in NW-SE direction and 1 to 3 km in NE-SW direction. There was a concrete runway, about 70 x 3,000 meters, from which a concrete taxiway, about 30 x 600 meters, led to the railroad station. (1)
2. A minimum of 6 or 7 large steel hangars of corrugated sheet metal were on the northwestern edge of the field, and a large hangar was in the eastern corner of the field. (2)
3. About 150 to 200 aircraft, including about 10 to 50 multi-engine transports, were permanently stationed at the field during the period of observation. (3) Most of the planes were jet fighters of different types, two of which were remembered [redacted] jet fighter with straight wings, a turbine under the fuselage, midwing monoplane, speed about 500 to 600 km/h; (4) and a jet fighter with straight wings, a speed of about 800 to 900 km/h, a turbine about 3 meters long in the middle of each wing projected rather far beyond the leading and trailing edges of the wings. (5)
4. There was day and night flying at the field.

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[redacted] Comments.

(1) For location of airfield, see Annex. The location of the airfield of the Tiflis Aircraft plant 31 is known and reported correctly. The size of the field seems to be exaggerated when compared with war-time aerial photographs and previous information. This is the first information that the runway was 3,000 meters long. [redacted] previously reported that it was planned to extend the runway to such a length in 1947. It is possible that this extension was completed.

25X1 (2) [redacted] the hangars were located on the southwestern edge of the field. The large hangar is reported for the first time. (3) The multi-engine aircraft have nothing to do with the production of the aircraft plant. Since such planes were previously reported [redacted] it is possible [redacted] that they were being used for transport purposes. (4) Probably type 16 jet fighters. Their production in Plant 31 is confirmed.

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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY [redacted]

(5) The description indicates that the type 8 plane, a version of the German Me-262, is probably concerned. To date, this type has not been reported from Tiflis. It is not known whether the manufacture of this type started in the plant in early 1949.

1 Annex: Sketch.

SECRET [redacted]

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